Senior Lecturer in Clinical Trials

Institute of Applied Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition

Closing date: 30 January 2023
Interview date: To Be Confirmed
Reference number: IHS126AX
INTRODUCTION

The Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS) is part of the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition and is based on one of the largest clinical sites in Europe. The Institute has substantial teaching and research portfolios and our graduates and research make an immense contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of communities not only in the UK but globally. This was recognised in REF 2021 where IAHS was placed 1st in Scotland and 8th in the UK for health sciences research. We have an international reputation for excellence in delivering healthcare trials through our UK Clinical Research Collaboration registered Centre for Healthcare Randomised Trials (CHaRT).

We are looking to recruit a new member of staff to strengthen our research and teaching teams and lead the expansion of our portfolio of clinical trials in new directions, for example digital health trials and global health trials. You will be enthusiastic about your work and have innovative ideas on how we might position Aberdeen as an international centre of excellence in these fields.

You will be expected to develop a portfolio of research and lead on applications for research funding from national and international funders as appropriate. We are particularly interested in individuals with existing networks of collaborators and a clear vision for priority areas in need of applied health research both in the UK and globally.

Teaching is part of the role and you will be expected to participate across a range of our teaching activities, as well as supervise postgraduate research students. A willingness to teach and interact with students using a range of delivery modes, including blended and online learning, is essential.

JOB DESCRIPTION

MAIN PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

The individual appointed as Senior Lecturer will undertake duties in teaching, research and administration within the Institute of Applied Health Sciences and to help position Aberdeen as an International Centre of Excellence in Clinical Trials.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Teaching
- Teach at PGT and UG levels including programme and course coordination and assessment
- Supervise Honours, Masters and PhD Projects
- Contribute to/lead teaching initiatives e.g. taught professional doctorate
- Take a role in curriculum development and enhancement of student engagement
- Help expand our suite of online courses
Research

- Develop a major clinical trials portfolio
- Initiate, direct and lead clinical trials funding applications
- Manage a range of major research projects and associated staff
- Continue to publish own research in high quality journals
- Provide supervision to research students according to individual area(s) of expertise
- Advise other researchers in areas of own research expertise

Other

- Be Deputy Director of CHaRT
- Contribute to the senior management team of the clinical trials unit
- Contribute to the wider academic life of the University through participation in various committees and in continuing professional development.

**CANDIDATE BACKGROUND**

You will have a PhD in an appropriate health services research discipline.

You will be committed to an academic career, focused on the design, conduct and analysis of clinical trials. You will have experience of teaching at UG and PG levels and will have supervised PhD students and research assistants/fellows.

You should have extensive research experience and be developing an independent research portfolio. A strong publication record and track record as a co-investigator on external grants is essential.

You will have your own area of methodological research and will have grants and publications in this field.

You will have excellent communication skills, good team-working, management experience, organisational and interpersonal skills.
TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 8, £54,949 - £61,823 per annum, and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a 3-year probation period.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

This role is based in the UK and as such the successful candidate will be required to live and work in the UK.

Should you require a visa to undertake employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship under the requirements of the Skilled Worker visa. At the time an offer of appointment is made, you will be asked to demonstrate that you fulfil the criteria in respect of qualification and competency in English. For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. Please do not hesitate to contact Grant Rae, HR Adviser (e-mail: grant.rae@abdn.ac.uk) for further information.

AT A GLANCE

SALARY:
Grade 8
£54,949 - £61,823

HOURS OF WORK:
Full-Time, 37.5 hours

CONTRACT TYPE:
Substantive

LOCATION:
Aberdeen
## PERSON SPECIFICATION

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<tr>
<th>Education/Qualifications</th>
<th>ESSENTIAL</th>
<th>DESIRABLE</th>
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| Academic, technical and professional education and training | - PhD in an appropriate health services research discipline  
- Recognised teaching award (e.g., HEA) or commitment to gain this | - Expertise in online and blended learning  
- Experience of communicating research outputs in creative, non-traditional ways (i.e. beyond academic presentations and publications) |

### Work and Other relevant experience (including training)

- Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research

#### ESSENTIAL
- Experience of leading, developing and delivering teaching at UG and PGT levels  
- Experience of supervising MSc/PhD student projects  
- Own area of methodological research with associated grants and publications  
- Evidence of published work in internationally excellent peer-reviewed journals  
- Experience of leading external collaborations or research projects  
- Evidence of winning substantial competitive research grants at national/international level

#### DESIRABLE
- Management experience  
- Evidence of interdisciplinary teamwork and interpersonal skills  
- Excellent communication and organisational skills  
- Knowledge of equality and diversity in the workplace  
- Proven academic leadership experience  
- Excellent communication and leadership skills to provide academic leadership in teaching and research in Public Health

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<th>Personal qualities and abilities</th>
<th>ESSENTIAL</th>
<th>DESIRABLE</th>
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| e.g. initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills | - Management experience  
- Evidence of interdisciplinary teamwork and interpersonal skills  
- Excellent communication and organisational skills  
- Knowledge of equality and diversity in the workplace  
- Proven academic leadership experience  
- Excellent communication and leadership skills to provide academic leadership in teaching and research in Public Health | |

### Other

- Special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.

Updated October 2022
The University of Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, and we put students at the centre of everything we do. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen is credited for its international reach and commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies. The University has over 16,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation, and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges and inspires.

CURRENT CONTEXT

The University continues to uphold the principals of the foundational purpose. We remain committed to delivering positive change both locally and globally. We work together and with our partners in an interdisciplinary way, catalysing world-leading research in our areas of strength: Energy Transition; Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity; Environment and Biodiversity; Data and Artificial Intelligence; and Health, Nutrition and Wellbeing. We are investing in our future and have committed £100m to upgrading our campus, including the new fully digitised Science Teaching Hub, the regeneration of the historic King’s Quarter and a new Business School building. Our commitment to our students, campus and community has led to us being named a Top 20 UK institution in two major league tables¹ and 4th in the UK for overall student satisfaction².

¹ The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023 and the Guardian University Guide 2023
² National Student Survey (NSS) 2022

Updated October 2022
On our 525th anniversary as a University we launched **Aberdeen 2040**, our strategic vision for the next 20 years. Four strategic themes will shape our learning and discovery, underlined by 20 commitments we have made against each theme:

- **Inclusive**
  We welcome students, staff and partners from all backgrounds, organisations and communities. We value diversity.

- **Interdisciplinary**
  We innovate in education and research by generating, sharing and applying new kinds of knowledge. We learn together.

- **International**
  We connect with others and extend our networks and partnerships around the world. We think across borders.

- **Sustainable**
  We understand and nurture our environment, and take care of our resources, including our people and finances.
  
  We work responsibly.

**OUR EDUCATION**

Recognised as the Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019, we remain true to our roots as an ancient Scottish university, combining breadth and depth in our degree programmes and drawing strength from the quality of our research. Our flexible curriculum encourages students to grow as independent learners and therefore to thrive as graduates in the diverse workplaces of the future. Our education is open to all and we are setting ambitious targets to further widen access.

**OUR RESEARCH**

Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been at the forefront of innovation and excellence throughout the centuries, generating insights in medicine, science, engineering, law, social sciences, arts and humanities. This research has contributed to five Nobel prizes as well as other awards such as the Queen’s Anniversary prize. Our research is intellectually rigorous working within our established areas of excellence as well as new methods of enquiry. We will continue to generate new knowledge addressing economic and societal issues with ambition and imagination, ensuring that it is globally excellent and locally relevant.

**INTERNATIONAL**

Aberdeen is increasing its international presence, positioning the University as a global organisation and building on established global partnerships around the world, including Qatar, China, North America, Europe. We feature in the top 50 institutions worldwide for international students.

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3 Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021
IMPACT

In 2020 the University signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals accord, solidifying our commitment to developing the world in a sustainable way. In 2022 we were listed in the global Top 100 for 8 of these goals⁴.

Our highly cited work in zero-carbon technology and global outlooks makes us Scotland’s best institution for environmental research⁵.

⁴ Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022
⁵ QS World University Rankings 2022
The School (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/smmsn/index.php) encompasses all of the disciplines that underpin today’s medicine, including biomedical sciences, health sciences, nutrition and medical, medical science and dental education and these are organised into five Institutes. The largest school in the University, the SMMSN has five Institutes: the Institute of Applied Health Sciences (IAHS), Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS), the Rowett Institute (RI), the Institute of Education in Healthcare and Medical Sciences (IEHMS) and the Institute of Dentistry, comprising all of our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and our own graduate entry Dental School.

Staff are line managed and research opportunities are supported through our institutes which work together in an integrated and coordinated way to deliver research and teaching across the School, details of which can be found on their websites as below.

- The Institute of Applied Health Sciences (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iahs/)
- The Institute of Medical Sciences (http://www.abdn.ac.uk/ims/)
- The Rowett Institute (http://www.abdn.ac.uk/rowett/)
- The Institute of Education in Healthcare and Medical Sciences (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iehms/)
- The Institute of Dentistry (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/dental/)

We have a number of specialist Centres representing areas of particular research strength and capacity within the School all of which are willing to support colleagues on projects in their areas. More information is available at the following websites.

- The Aberdeen Cancer Centre (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/smmsn/research/cancerabdn-1022.php)
- The Health Services Research Unit (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/hsru/)
- The Health Economics Research Unit (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/heru/)
- The Centre for Health Data Science (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/achds/)
- The Centre for Healthcare Education Research and Innovation (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/cheri/index.php)
- The Aberdeen Cardiovascular & Diabetes Centre (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/acdc/) and
- The Aberdeen Centre for Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Health (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/acamh/)

The School is home to over 800 staff and 2000 fte students. It is located on the Foresterhill site, shared with our main clinical partner, NHS Grampian, with whom we work in close collaboration at primary and secondary care levels. This is one of the largest integrated healthcare delivery, training and research sites in Europe and has rich assets including state-of-the-art academic (research and teaching) and clinical buildings. Excellent infrastructure is also provided through core facilities for biomedical science including flow cytometry, proteomics, microscopy and genome sequencing, support for data health science projects and clinical trials.

Within the IMS, our scientists are working towards the creation of effective therapies for patients with a range of debilitating and life-threatening conditions. Current research areas include arthritis and musculoskeletal medicine; cell developmental and cancer biology; immunity, infection, and inflammation; metabolic and cardiovascular health; microbiology and translational neuroscience.

Updated October 2022
The last major academic capital development was the opening of the Rowett Institute, occupied in March 2016, whose staff undertakes nutrition research to help improve people’s lives through the prevention of ill-health and disease. Their new £40M building has provided the University of Aberdeen with a facility with unique capabilities for human nutrition and metabolic research. Currently, the NHSG is carrying out an exciting £164 million building development creating The Baird Family Hospital and The Aberdeen and North Centre for Haematology, Oncology and Radiotherapy (ANCHOR) Centre Project, scheduled for completion in 2023.

As well as being the organisational home to the teaching scholarship staff and responsible for oversight of the UG and PGT programmes offered by the School, the Institute of Education in Healthcare and Medical Sciences promotes and supports excellence in medical education through research and development, with a focus on conceptually and theoretically robust research and development which has strong potential for reaching international recognition.

The University of Aberdeen and NHS Highland have a teaching centre within the Centre for Health Science building, known as the Highland Medical Education Centre (HMEC) (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/iemds/inverness-campus/). Inverness has a long tradition of teaching senior (years 4 and 5) clinical medical students on rotation from Aberdeen and also offers a Remote and Rural training programme (all of year 4) for our medical students. HMEC supports a number of NHS Clinical Development Fellows who undertake a fixed period out of programme to develop their medical education skills. The Institute of Dentistry runs an undergraduate BDS programme and a growing suite of Masters programmes for professional development.

INSTITUTE OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

Within the IAHS, research is focused on improving health and health care delivery. It is home to a multidisciplinary grouping of around 250 staff and home to 12 research-active groups.

The Health Services Research Unit (HSRU) is one of these groups and shares strategic research objectives with the IAHS to evaluate healthcare interventions, improve research practice and design better healthcare. In pursuit of this remit, HSRU has established a portfolio of health services research focusing on two main programmes; Health Care Assessment and Improving Experiences of Care. The delivery of the research in both programmes is underpinned and informed by knowledge synthesis and methodological research. HSRU co-hosts the Centre or Healthcare Randomised Trials (CHaRT), a UKCRC registered clinical trials unit. CHaRT's goal is to collaborate in high quality Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs), providing access to the core competencies of experienced trialists, trial management, data processing and management, statistics, and health economics. Through scientific and technical partnership, CHaRT will address important health questions in the increasingly challenging scientific, legal and regulatory environment in which RCTs will be conducted.
Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

Scotland’s third largest city, Aberdeen sits on the coast between the mountains of Aberdeenshire and the stunning North Sea coastline. The Aberdeen City region is a can-do place that is actively investing, at scale, in its future.

Renowned as a Global Energy Hub, Aberdeen is a vibrant, entrepreneurial region, home to a unique mix of business opportunities and specialist skills across various sectors including energy, technology, life sciences and food & drink. More than 20% of Scotland’s top businesses are located in this region which is taking great strides to ensure that it continues to compete on a world stage. Investments of more than £10 billion of public and private infrastructure is due to be delivered before 2030, marking an exciting time to be part of a genuine world-class location.

Built from sparkling local granite Aberdeen has earned the name of the Silver City. As the energy capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live, work and study. Due to its global business and international energy industry credentials, Aberdeen is well served by local and national transport infrastructure with excellent rail networks that run both North and South of Scotland and the rest of the UK. It also acts as an international travel hub. Flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights and serves international travel to European centres such as Amsterdam (Schiphol) and Paris (Charles de Gaulle) as well as flights to other European destinations.

The City and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, seaside and country attractions. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty's Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the P&J Arena, Museums, and Beach Leisure Centre. The City is framed by its accessible beach front which is within a short walk of the city centre and there are an array of activities available across the region such as hill walking; mountaineering; sailing; surfing; salmon, trout and sea fishing; golf; sailing; surfing and windsurfing. The surrounding countryside, known as Aberdeenshire, is also one of Scotland’s most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

The city and the surrounding area have ranked consistently highly in nationally recognised quality of life surveys, coming out top 10 as one of the best places to live in Scotland in 2020 in the annual Bank of Scotland survey.

To find out more visit www.visitabdn.com
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The University values a diverse working environment and recognises the benefits this can bring. The University is keen to receive applications from individuals from across all of the equality protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

The University supports opportunities for flexible working for a range of reasons and has policies in place to facilitate this. The policies can be found at https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here/flexible-working--5607.php.

The University’s commitment to gender equality has been recognised through the achievement of an Athena SWAN Bronze award at an institutional level and across all its subject areas. The University is also a Stonewall Diversity Champion to further LGBT+ equality.

The University is signed up to Advance HE’s Race Equality Charter, affirming the University’s commitment to the charter’s aim of improving the representation, progression and success of minority ethnic staff and students within higher education.

Candidates who are British Sign Language (BSL) users can contact us directly by using contact SCOTLAND-BSL.

The University is delighted to be accredited as a Disability Confident employer and strives to ensure that disabled staff and students have the opportunity to work and study in an inclusive, accessible and supportive environment.

www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/governance/equality-and-diversity-277

HOW TO APPLY

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is 30 January 2023

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact:

Professor Amanda Lee, Director of IAHS a.j.lee@abdn.ac.uk or Professor Graeme MacLennan, Director of CHaRT g.maclennan@abdn.ac.uk.

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Professor Lee or Professor MacLennan.

Please quote reference number IHS126AX on all correspondence.